Subject: Will Wood write a preface to his book about money?

Webb, E.O.

[San Jose, CA]

1935

Air Mail Reply

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66 SO. FIRST STREET SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

September 10th.

Mr. Howland Wood
Curator, American Numismatic Society
156th. & Broadway
New York.

Dear Sir;-

I have been a collector of U. S. coins for a number of years and the more varieties I collected the more interested I became in our money. I finally ended up in the libraries looking for all the books they had pertaining to money. There was no one book that contained much about the story of money in the way that it interested me. Guess I read fully 50 books on the subject.

After reading all these books I thought I would try gathering all this data and write a story of money in the way that it interested me. This I have been doing, during the past year and now have reached the place where I need a preface or introduction to the story.

Ernest Wernstrom, our District Secretary of the American Numismatis Association has read the story and reports it "well written, interesting and instructive" and he refers me to you as a great authority on Numismatics and the one who could give me the proper preface to use for my story.

On the enclosed sheet I have given the outline of the story, so you can see how I have followed money thru the ages. In writing this story I have endeavored to write it in such a way that the story would b e interesting tb those who are collectors of coins and to arrouse an interest in those who are on the verge of taking up the hobby of coin collecting.

Will you write a preface for me to use for this story? Word it in such a way that it will help to create more collectors of our own U. S. money and perhaps after getting started as ordinary coin collectors they will later become real Numismatists.

Could you spare the time to read the type written copy of the story, there are close to 20,000 words. If you would, I will be glad to send it.

Yours very truly

E. O. Webb.
A.N.A. 4701

OUTLINE-----OUR METALLIC MONEY

---Part One---

Definition of Money
As given in Angel's Story of Money. (Permission to use, obtained)
Barter in Primative Conditions.

Cowrie - Shell Money.

Records of early use of money in the Bible.

Chinese Money.

Early Coins of Homer.

Coins of Lydia.

Early English Coins.

Birth of Dollar - "Joachimsthaler"

Wampum of the First English Settlers.

Our First Colonial Money.

Establishment of our National Coinage.

Our Early Mints.

Methods of Coining Money - Minting Process.

Private Gold Coinage of the West.

Designs on our coins.

Explainations of Thirteen Stars- E Pluribus Unum- In God We Trust-
Arrows at date- Mint marks and etc.

Signatures on coins----Size and weight of our coins----
Terms used in the description of coins--- Proper classification
of coins----U. S. Mint Test for gold and silver.

----Part Two----

Covers all the coins of the United States, giving the authority for coining each one--Changes in weights--Diameter and fineness.
Total number of coins of each denomination minted and the different years that they were minted.

Each of the Gold and Silver Commemoratives---giving a description and history of each one and the number minted.

The Jackson Cents---Civil War Tokens---Confederate Half Dollar
Coins of the Phillipines and Hawaiian Islands.

E. O. Webb. San Jose, Calif.

September 12, 1935.

Mr. E. O. Webb
66 South First Street
San Jose, California.

Dear Mr. Webb:

Although I appreciate what you are doing and trust that you will be able to publish your account of coins I cannot see my way clear to write a preface. I am absolutely tied up for several months as I have three very complicated manuscripts I am preparing for publication written by others. I am also trying to write two articles on my own account and have on my desk at the present moment a 30,000 word manuscript that I have been asked to correct and review. I was wondering if Arthur C. Wyman of Los Altos, Cal., might not be able to help you out. All of this work I have just mentioned that I am doing isoutside of my regular routine work which as a matter of fact takes up most of my time. I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator